Say Garrison Aide Told RFK: Probe Is Farce

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The chief investigator of New Orleans District Attorney Jim Garrison has told Sen. Robert F. Kennedy that there was "no basis in fact and no material evidence in Garrison's case for an assassination plot against the late President Kennedy," it was reported today.

Garrison contends that the assasination was the result of a ocnspiracy, disputing the Warren Commission finding that Lee Harvey Oswald acted alone as the killer.

William H. Gurvich, the chief investigator, could not be reached for comment on the report, which was carried by the National Broadcasting Co. on its 11 p.m. television news program last night.

Sen. Kennedy, through a spokesman, said he had spoken to Gurvich recently. But Kennedy added: "I have not discussed the substance of our conversation and I think it would be inappropriate to do so now."

Shaw Indictment

Clay L. Shaw, 54-year-old retired businessman, is under indictment in New Orleans on charges of conspiracy to murder Kennedy in Dallas in 1963.

Shaw was bound over for trial after a preliminary hearing in which Garrison alleged that Shaw, Oswald and the late David W. Ferrie plotted to murder Kennedy.

In ac copyrighted interview today the Long Island newspaper Newsday quoted Gurvich as saying that Kennedy had told him he was "extremely grateful" that Gurvich had come to see him.

The story also said in part:

"He, Gurvich, was asked if it were true that, as some reports had it, he had told the Senator that the Garrison investigation was 'a hoax.' Gurvich said, 'That is absolutely untrue. I think Mr. Garrison believes in what he is doing. He is sincere.'"

The account said Gurvich replied 'no comment" when asked if he had told Kennedy there was no substance to the investigation. The story said:

Asked why he denied saying the investigation was a hoax but refused to deny he told Kennedy there was no substance to it, Gurvich said, 'There's a difference between a hoax and saying there's nothing to it.'"

Is Private Eye

Newsday said Gurvich is an official of the Ne wOrleans Private Patrol and Gurvich Detective Agency, a private investigation and security firm established by his father, a former FBI agent.

DA GARRISON

In New Orleans, meanwhile, Garrison announced plans to summon the director of the Metropolitan Crime Commission before the Orleans Parish country grand jury.

The commission, a nonprofit citizens' corporation that conducts research and investigates criminal justice and law enforcement in the metropolitan New Orelans area, had atacked Garrison's tactics in the assassination probe.

Garrison referred yesterday to an appearance of Commission Director Aaron Kohn before an earlier grand jury to air charges of organized crime in New Orleans and said Kohn had been "exposed" as a result.

"The last time he was exposed as a liar and he will be in this case," Garrison said.

Earlier, the crime commission called upon Louisiana Atty. Gen. Jack Gremillion to launch an exhaustive probe into the manner in which Garrison is investigating the assassination.

GORDON NORVEL

Witness Calls Plot A 'Fraud'

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stated to the above questions, did not generally denote specific deception and therefore would be considered as truthful answers," Furr said in his sworn statement.

Garrison could not be reached on the allegations. Norvel suggested that if Garrison denied his charges, then the flamboyant district attorney should "take a lie detector test himself."

Norvel, owner of an electronics equipment firm and a former night club operator, was summoned before a grand jury in New Orleans 10 days ago in connection with the alleged conspiracy to assassinate President Kennedy. He appeared but did not testify, left New Orleans and was then called again in absentia.

New Orleans authorities have asked police in Chicago —where he reportedly went after visiting Columbus, Ohio —to help locate Norvel.

This reporter had interviewed the slender, nattily

dressed witness in New Orleans on March 18 shortly before he left the city. He was contacted by Hearst Headline Service last night in his hideaway, and Norvel volunteered to take a test to help substantiate his story. Lie detector tests are not permitted as proof in federal court, but they are considered a useful investigative tool when physical evidence cannot be produced.

Garrison has never made clear why he wanted Norvel before the grand jury. A friend of Norvel's, attorney Dean Andrews Jr., has already been indicted by the grand jury on a perjury charge.

Norvel, a sports car fan, has no record of criminal convictions, although he had been charged with traffic counts and was held briefly on suspicion in a stolen car case when he was 21.

Norvel attended the University of California and Louisiana State University and was living in New York City at the time of the Kennedy assassination, Nov. 22, 1963, he said. He was born in New Orleans.

In the test, he was asked control questions, such as "Is your shirt white?" "Do you drink coffee?" "What is your age?"

The reaction of the control questions on a graph electrically linked to a blood pressure apparatus was then compared with such crucial questions as "Do you now honestly believe Garrison's conspiracy prosecution is a fraud?"

Furr, former president of the National Capital Polygraph Assn., is a retired lie detector specialist from the Washington metropolitan police. Norvel said today's test was the first he had ever taken.

Costs for the test were met by Hearst Headline Service and transportation was paid by the National Broadcasting Co., which shared the results. No payment was made to Norvel for taking the test, and no effort was made to detain him.

Outside the test Norvel said that he had met both Shaw and Ferrie but never in connection with the alleged conspiracy.

Hearst Headline Service.